



# **Byron Township and Gaines Charter Township 2024 Water Quality Report**

# We are pleased to report that your drinking water meets and often is better than all state and federal guidelines for safe drinking water.

This report covers the drinking water quality for Byron Township and Gaines Charter Township (WSSN 1023) for the 2024 calendar year.

This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2024. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and state standards.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State of Michigan prescribe regulations that limit the levels of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.



Federal Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provide the same protection for public health. The State of Michigan and the U.S. EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. Our drinking water met all the monitoring and reporting requirements for 2024.

We will update this report annually and will keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen. For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact Peter Minnich at 616.261.3593. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. EPA at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>. This report will not be sent to you. To request a printed copy, contact Byron-Gaines Utility Authority at 616.971.0002



The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and from wells.

Our source for drinking water is Lake Michigan. Rain, groundwater, rivers, and streams that feed into Lake Michigan, dissolving naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material.

Some of the substances that can make their way into Lake

Michigan are: Viruses and bacteria from animal, agricultural, and human activities, salts, metals, pesticides and herbicides and byproducts of industrial processes.

Our water source has a moderately high susceptibility to these substances. For a copy of the most current source water assessment for the water system, please call the City of Wyoming at 616.399.6511.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. Byron Township meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 5:30pm. See their website at [byrontownship.org](http://byrontownship.org) for more information. Gaines Charter Township meetings are the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00pm. See their website at [gainestownship.org](http://gainestownship.org) for more information.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants.

The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800.426.4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections.

Esta publicación contiene información importante sobre el agua que usted bebe diariamente. Si no lo entiende, busque a alguien que se lo traduzca o le explique su contenido. Para mas información, llame al 616.530.7389 o visite página electrónica. [www.epa.gov/espanol](http://www.epa.gov/espanol)



These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. U.S. EPA/Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800.426.4791).



The tables below list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2024 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2024. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

**All the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.**

### Regulated Monitoring at the Treatment Plant

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	Average Level Found	MCL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding MCL	Possible Sources
Fluoride	ppm	0.5-0.8	0.7	4	4	0	Additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	ppm	0.3-0.4	0.4	10	10	0	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ppm	.023	.023	2	2	0	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge of metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	ppm	10-14	12	N/A	N/A		Naturally present in the environment

Substance	Units	Highest Level Found	TT	Samples Exceeding TT	Possible Sources
Turbidity	NTU	0.27	1 NTU	0	Soil runoff and natural sediment

\*100% of turbidity samples were found to be <0.3 NTU

### Additional Monitoring

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	Average Level Found	Possible Sources
Hardness	ppm	135-182	147	Naturally present dissolved calcium and magnesium salts

## Regulated Monitoring at the Customer's Tap

Compliance is determined using the 90th percentile, where nine out of ten samples must be below the Action Level. Testing was conducted in 2022.

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	AL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding AL	Possible Sources
Copper	ppm	0.0-0.2	0.1	1.3	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of Natural Deposits
Lead	ppb	0-65	2	15	0	1	Lead service lines, corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Our water supply has no known lead service lines and 261 service lines of unknown material out of a total of 12,002 service lines. If you would like to know more about this report, please contact Byron-Gaines Utility Authority at 616-971-0002.

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Byron-Gaines Utility Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for at least 5 minutes to flush water from both your home plumbing and the lead service line. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Byron-Gaines Utility Authority at 616-971-0002 for available resources. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.**



## Regulated Monitoring in the Distribution System

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	Highest Running Annual	MRDL	MRDLG	Samples Exceeding MRDL	Possible Sources
Chlorine Residual	ppm	0.2-1.7	0.9	4	4	0	Used to disinfect drinking water

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	Highest Running Annual Average	MCL	Samples Exceeding MCL	Possible Sources
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	10-39	25	60	0	Formed when chlorine is added to water with naturally occurring organic material
Trihalomethanes	ppb	30-58	51	80	0	Formed when chlorine is added to water with naturally occurring organic material

Substance	Detection	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Possible Sources
Total Coliform	0 of 712 Samples	TT	0	No	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli	0 of 712 Samples	Presence of Total Coliform or E. coli in repeat samples; or repeat samples not collected	0	No	Human or animal fecal waste

## Industrial Waste

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	Average Level Found	MCL	Samples Exceeding MCL	Possible Sources
PFNA	ppt	ND	N/A	6	0	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; Breakdown of precursor compounds
PFOA	ppt	ND	N/A	8	0	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; Stain-resistant treatments
PFHxA	ppt	ND	N/A	400,000	0	Firefighting foam; Discharge and waste from industrial facilities
PFOS	ppt	ND	N/A	16	0	Firefighting foam; Discharge from electroplating facilities; Discharge and waste from industrial facilities
PFHxS	ppt	ND	N/A	51	0	Firefighting foam; Discharge and waste from industrial facilities
PFBS	ppt	ND	N/A	420	0	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; Stain-resistant treatments
Gen X	ppt	ND	N/A	370	0	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities utilizing the Gen X chemical process

## Terms and Abbreviations

- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **N/A:** Not applicable
- **ND:** Not detectable at testing limit
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** Measurements of minute suspended particles, used to judge water clarity
- **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter
- **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter
- **ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water



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